

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-28 are active in this application. The claims have been amended to specify that the present composite cut-resistant yarn is acrylic free (i.e. contains no acrylic yarn). This amendment is supported by the specification, and is merely the elimination of one of the potential embodiments originally encompassed by the claims. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

The present invention relates to a composite cut-resistant yarn, that in particular contains no high-performance yarns, but retains high cut resistance, and a fabric formed from such composite yarn. Further, the composite yarn comprises a core with at least one strand of fiberglass and at least one strand of wire which can be arranged in parallel or twisted with one another. The one or more wrap layers of the present invention are made of non-high performance fibers.

The claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Chakravarti. Chakravarti discloses a cut resistant antimicrobial yarn and apparel made therefrom. In particular, the antimicrobial character of Chakravarti's yarns are provided by the required presence of antimicrobially treated acrylic fibers, forming the outer layer of the references antimicrobial yarn. (see Abstract and specification at column 1, lines 31-35). Chakravarti requires that the yarn contain acrylic fiber in its broadest aspects (see column 1, lines 31-32). It is the acrylic yarn that provides the antimicrobial properties of Chakravarti's yarn due to its treatment with an antimicrobial chemical.

However, the present invention composite cut-resistant yarn, as now claimed, cannot contain acrylic. Accordingly, Chakravarti cannot anticipate the invention. Further, Chakravarti cannot render the present invention obvious, since removal of the acrylic fiber from Chakravarti would destroy the invention of Chakravarti. Accordingly, Chakravarti cannot be modified in order to provide the present invention as now claimed. One of

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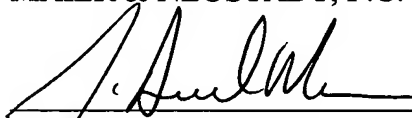
ordinary skill in the art would not arrive at the present invention, since there is no teaching or suggestion in Chakravarti to prepare a composite cut-resistant yarn that does not contain acrylic, and to do so would destroy the invention of Chakravarti.

Since the reference cannot anticipate or render obvious the present invention, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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